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DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE.

THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF
APPLIED CHEMISTRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: The great success of the Second International Congress of Applied Chemistry leads to the belief that the next one, which is to be held in Vienna in July, 1898, will also be numerously attended. Nearly 2,000 members were present at the Paris meeting, and it required five large volumes to contain the report of its proceedings.

The undersigned have been appointed a committee in the United States to promote the interests of the Third International Congress of Applied Chemistry, and beg to call the attention of the chemists of this country to that meeting, with the hope that many may be induced to attend. Those who subscribe and receive their membership cards will be entitled to all reductions in rates going to and coming from Vienna which are arranged for members of the Congress. During the Paris meeting the French line of steamers reduced its rates 33 per cent. to members of the Congress. It is hoped that an arrangement can be made with some of the steamship lines during the coming summer for a similar reduction, although the committee has not yet been informed of any arrangement of this kind.

The opportunity of meeting distinguished chemists from all parts of the world should not be lost sight of, and will doubtless be appreciated by the American members. The scientific work of the Congress will be divided into the following sections:

Section 1. General analytical chemistry and apparatus, Dr. George Vortmann, Wien, IV Schaumburgergasse 16, Chairman.

Section 2. Food, medicinal and pharmaceutical chemistry, Dr. Ernst Ludwig, Wien, XIX Biloithstrasse 72, Chairman.

Section 3. Agricultural Chemistry, Professor E. Meissl, Wien, II Trummerstrasse 3, Chairman.

Section 4. Chemistry of the sugar industry, Professor Friedrich Strohmer, Wien, IV/2 Schönburgstrasse 6, Chairman.

Section 5. Chemistry of the fermenting industries, Professor F. Schwackhäfer, Wien, XIX Karl Ludwigstrasse 74, Chairman.

Section 6. Chemistry of wine making, Dr. L. Rosler, Wien, Physiologische Versuchsstation, Chairman.

Section 7. Inorganic chemical industries (manufacture of sulphuric acid, soda, etc.), Herr Paul Seybel, Wien, III Reissnerstrasse 50, Chairman.

Section 8. Metallurgy and explosives, Professor Franz Kupelwieser, Wien, I Franzenring, Chairman.

Section 9. Organic chemical industries, Dr. Hugo Ritter von Perger, Wien, IV Gusshausstrasse 23, Chairman.

Section 10. Chemistry of the graphic industries (photo-chemistry, photography, etc.), Dr. Josef Maria Eder, Wien, VII West Cohnstrasse 25, Chairman.

Section 11. Didactic chemistry, Professor Franz Lafar, Wien, Technische Hochschule, Chairman.

Section 12. Electro-chemistry, Dr. Karl Kellner, Hallein, Salzburg, Chairman.

All persons desiring to become members, and wishing further information on the subject of the Congress can secure copies of the provisional 'reglement' by addressing the chairman of the committee, Washington, D. C.

Excursions, visits to localities of interest, banquets, etc., will be arranged for and definitely announced at a later period. Papers in German, French and English will be accepted, and authors are requested to communicate with the several chairmen and send them titles of papers and subjects which they would like to have discussed.

All persons intending to become members of the Congress may receive a membership card from the Secretary, Dr. F. Strohmer, by sending 21 francs to his address, IV/2 Schönburgstrasse, Nr. 6, Vienna, Austria. If preferred, members may send \$4.30 to the Chairman of the American Committee, who will transmit the proper amount to Dr. Strohmer.

The provisional officers of the Congress are as follows:

President of Honor—Hofrath Professor Dr. Alexander Bauer.

Active President—Regierungsrath Dr. Hugo Ritter v. Perger, Professor in the Royal Imperial Technical High School of Vienna.

Vice-President—Regierungsrath Dr. Josef Maria Eder, Director of the Royal Imperial Graphic School in Vienna.

Secretary—Professor Dr. F. Strohmer, Director of the Experiment Station for Beet Sugar Industry, Vienna.

Respectfully,

H. W. WILEY, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., *Chairman*.

W. O. ATWATER, Middletown, Conn.

PETER T. AUSTEN, 11 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

C. F. CHANDLER, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

B. F. DAVENPORT, 161 Tremont street, Boston, Mass.

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C. B. DUDLEY, Altoona, Pa.

W. L. DUDLEY, Nashville, Tenn.

WM. P. MASON, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N. Y.

WM. MCMURTRIE, 100 William street, New York, N. Y.

C. E. MUNROE, Columbian University, Washington, D. C.

A. A. NOYES, Massachusetts Institute Technology, Boston, Mass.

T. B. OSBORNE, New Haven, Conn.

IRA REMSEN, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

W. B. RISING, Berkeley, Cal.

EDGAR F. SMITH, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

F. G. WIECHMANN, 771 West End avenue, New York, N. Y.

FRANCIS WYATT, 39 South William street, New York, N. Y.

PROPOSED SYLVESTER MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE—May I be permitted to appeal through your columns to all friends and admirers of the late Professor J. J. Sylvester to assist in founding a suitable memorial in honor of his name and for the encouragement of mathematical science. A movement was inaugurated on this side of the Atlantic soon after his death, and it was resolved by the promoters that a fund should be raised for

the purpose of establishing a Sylvester Medal, to be awarded at certain intervals for mathematical research to any worker irrespective of nationality. For the purpose of carrying out the scheme, a strongly representative International Committee has been formed, and I should like to take advantage of this opportunity of expressing the great satisfaction which it has given to the promoters to be enabled to include in this Committee so many great and distinguished names from the American universities. In every case our invitation to join the Committee has been most cordially responded to, and the consent has in many instances been accompanied by expressions of the greatest sympathy and encouragement. The list as it stands practically includes the leading mathematicians of the whole world.

It has been estimated that a capital sum of \$5,000 will be sufficient for the proposed endowment, and of this about one-half has already been subscribed here. In appealing to the American public to enable us to complete the desired sum I am in the first place prompted by the consideration that Sylvester's association with the Johns Hopkins University and the leading part which he took in advancing mathematical science in America renders his claim to estimation on the part of the citizens of your country quite a special one. It is but a modest endowment that we are asking for, and I am sure that all those who were personally acquainted with him and who realize the great influence which he exerted in raising the intellectual level of every institution with which he was associated will be glad of this opportunity of coöperating in the movement.

It is proposed that the fund when complete shall be transferred to the Council of the Royal Society of London, that body having undertaken to accept the trust and to award the medal triennially to mathematicians of all countries. I can hardly venture to trespass upon your courtesy to the extent of asking you to print the complete list of our Committee, but for your own information I beg to send a copy herewith. It will be sufficient to state that it comprises the names of President Gilman, of the Johns Hopkins University; of Professor Simon Newcomb, of Washington; of Professor Willard Gibbs, of Yale; of Professor Pierce,